Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know from the honourable member whether the payment realised from patients is for medical attendance as well as for the medicine supplied?

Dr. S. John: No. It is not for the medical attendance as it is. The cost of medicine is too high nowadays. If we go to a shop to buy a medicine we will be able to understand it. Medicines are not sold to patients but a nominal fee is received from people who are able to pay.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: It is stated in the Administration Report that it is for the medical attendance as well.

Dr. S. John: Yes. The X-ray cost realised is for medical attendance. Before a medicine is prescribed a patient has to be examined and this is medical attendance. The fee charged is only for medicines but, medical attendance and medicine go together. There can be no dispensing of medicine without medical attendance.

Sale of medicines in the Government Hospital in the State.

258. ✱ **Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of patients treated in the Government Hospitals of the State in 1119 on receipt of payment for medicines supplied;

(*b*) amount received by them by way of sale of medicines to the patients in 1119; and

(*c*) amount received by sale of medicine to patients in hospitals from the beginning of 1120 up to the end of Edavom 112?

Dr. S. John: (*a*) About 40,000.

(*b*) Medicines are not sold to patients; but a nominal fee is received from well-to-do patients. The amount so collected during 1119 is Rs. 12,300 approximately.

(*c*) S. Rs. 9,915-16-0.

Grant-in-aid Allopathic medical Institutions.

259. ✱ **Mr. K. G. Narayana Panicker:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of Allopathic Medical Institutions, if any, receiving grant from Government, and the amount of grant given in 1119 and 1120?

Dr. S. John: The list is laid on the Secretary's table.

Alwaye Hospital.

260. ✱ **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether in view of the rapid development of Alwaye as an industrial centre, it is not an urgent necessity before

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[Mr. Paul A. Thaliath]

the proposed new hospital comes into existence, to increase at least temporarily the number of beds for inpatients in the present hospital?

Dr. S. John: Attention is invited to paragraph 4 of G. O. R. O. C. No. 448/43/LG., dated the 7th July 1945 published at pages 1411 to 1412 of the Travancore Government Gazette dated 10th July 1945. As stated therein, the Hospital Reorganisation Scheme is being worked on a three year programme and the conversion of the existing hospital at Alwaye into a major one will be carried out in the course of that period.

A new out-patient block is now under construction in the hospital and as soon as it is ready the present out-patient building also will be converted into wards.

Control over private dispensaries or hospitals.

261. * **Mr. K. G. Narayana Panicker:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Medical Department is exercising any control or supervision over private Dispensaries or Hospitals that are opened in this State and, if so, whether the department is getting annual reports from those institutions?

Dr. S. John: The Medical Department is exercising control over private hospitals and dispensaries which are in receipt of grants from Government. The department is getting annual reports from such institutions.

Mr. K. G. Narayana Panicker: May I know from the honourable member whether there is any rule in force under which these grants are made?

Dr. S. John: When somebody who is qualified to conduct a dispensary and who was practising in a locality applies for a grant, grant will be given to that institution if its working is found satisfactory as per rules.

Bi-weekly dispensaries.

262. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many bi-weekly dispensaries are being conducted in the State at present; and

(*b*) how many of such dispensaries have been converted into regular daily dispensaries in the course of the last three years?

Dr. S. John: (*a*) Fourteen.

(*b*) One.

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